

Question 16:

During this 6 month period, did you prepare, disseminate or Cause to be disseminated any informational material?

Answer: Yes. Below are the copies of the Press releases distributed during the reporting period (06/01/2011 – 11/30/2011)

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PRESS RELEASE
September 20, 2011

KARABAKH DELEGATION VISITS WASHINGTON, D.C.

Members of the U.S. Congress Join Artsakh's Parliamentarians to Celebrate NKR Independence

WASHINGTON, DC – On September 11, 2011, Nagorno Karabakh Republic's (NKR) parliamentary delegation headed by Speaker of the Republic's National Assembly Mr. Ashot Ghulian arrived in Washington D.C. to attend the Congressional event on the twentieth anniversary of NKR Independence, and hold a series of meetings and consultations. While in Washington, D.C. the Artsakh delegation met with members of Congress, policy experts, media representatives and senior staff of Armenian-American advocacy organizations.

On September 12, Parliament speaker Ashot Ghulian held separate meetings with experts and scholars from Washington-based think-tanks to discuss recent development around the Karabakh peace process and the South Caucasus region. There was a productive exchange of ideas on the region's future prospects.

Artsakh officials also met with members of Congress Adam Schiff, Eliot Engel, Frank Pallone, Jr. and Ranking Member of the House Foreign Relations Committee Howard Berman. Parliament Speaker Ghulian highlighted the democratic and economic achievements during in the two decades of independence. He expressed gratitude to members of Congress for continuing support of aspirations of the Artsakh people. Congressmen, in their turn, expressed concern with situation along the Line of Contact, and Azerbaijan's continued military build-up. They have pledged continued attention and support for Artsakh's self-determination.

On September 13, Speaker Ghulian and Chairwoman of the Parliament's Standing Committee on Social Issues Mrs. Zoya Lazaryan addressed a U.S. Congressional event dedicated to the 20th anniversary of Artsakh's Independence. The event was co-sponsored by co-chairs of the bipartisan Congressional Armenian caucus Rep. Frank Pallone (D-NY) and Edward Royce (R-CA), in cooperation with the Embassy of Armenia, NKR Office in the USA, and Armenian-American organizations. Other speakers included Representatives David Cicilline (D-RI), Jim Costa (D-CA), Robert Dold (R-IL), Brad Sherman (D-CA), Adam

Schiff (D-CA) and Jackie Speier (D-CA), as well as Armenian Ambassador to the United States Dr. Tatoul Markarian, and Archbishop Oshagan Cholyan of the Eastern Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church. During the event attended by congressional staff, diplomats, journalists and Armenian community members, the US legislators highlighted the legitimacy of the Artsakh's independence and its achievements since 1991. The speakers expressed readiness to continue supporting international recognition of the Artsakh republic.

In his speech, Speaker Ghulian thanked the U.S. Congress for its steadfast and continuing support to Artsakh, stressing that both American and Artsakh people shared the same universal values and concepts. See full speech of Speaker Ashot Ghulian at:

http://nkrusa.org/nk_conflict/speeches.php?id=18

Chairwoman Lazaryan also expressed gratitude to American legislators for the ongoing support of Artsakh's economic and social development, emphasizing the importance of the annual American aid allocation to Nagorno Karabakh. See full speech at: http://nkrusa.org/nk_conflict/speeches.php?id=19

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On September 2, 1991, in an effort to put an end to decades of discrimination and oppression within Soviet Azerbaijan, and reverse Joseph Stalin's arbitrary decision in 1921, the people of Nagorno Karabakh proclaimed an independent republic, and undertook a lasting commitment to live in a sovereign and democratic society.

Earlier, joining the people of NKR on this occasion, Congressmen Frank Pallone, extended his congratulations to the NKR President Bako Sahakyan. In his letter Rep. Pallone emphasized that for the past 20 years, Artsakh has proven its vitality and strong commitment to the universal values of freedom, peace and democracy. He reiterated congressional commitment to Artsakh's security and development and reinstated the support to international recognition of the NKR.

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The Office of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic in the United States is based in Washington, DC and works with the U.S. government, academia and the public representing the official policies and interests of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic.

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PRESS RELEASE
October 3, 2011

NKR REPRESENTATIVE VISITS CALIFORNIA

Delivers a Community Briefing and Lecture on Artsakh

On September 30, 2011, NKR representative Robert Avetisyan arrived in San Francisco, California, to participate in the community briefing "Nagorno Karabakh's Right to Self-Determination". The briefing was organized by the Northern California Regional Council of the Armenian Assembly of America (AAA) and local St. Vardan's Cultural Committee. The AAA Executive Director Bryan Ardouny briefed the audience about the activity of Washington-based Armenian lobbying organizations, while Andrew Lyons, VP of the HALO Trust organization, presented on the ongoing project of clearance of landmines and unexploded ordnance in Artsakh implemented by the HALO Trust.

In his speech, Artsakh's Representative touched upon the history of proclamation of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic in September 1991. He stressed the importance of the historic decision, and underlined that the people in Artsakh had enjoyed their right for self-determination in full compliance with then acting Soviet legislation and international norms. Representative has also highlighted the republic's democratic and economic achievements, as well as explained the remaining challenges. An intensive Q&A followed the speakers' presentations covering various topics around Artsakh.

On the next day, Robert Avetisyan has met with the professors and students of the University of California, Berkeley. A lecture "The Independent Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh: The First Twenty Years of Challenges and Achievements" was sponsored by the Armenian Studies Program and the Institute for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies. Avetisyan presented the historical, legal and moral preconditions for establishment of the NKR, as well as described the present situation in the republic, and the development prospects.

After the lecture and Q&A session, the audience watched a brief documentary on Artsakh.

For more information, please, contact Press Office of the Office of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic in the USA at: info@nkrusa.org

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October 17, 2011

Press Release

Newly-formed Artsakh Development Group (ADG) Invites Scholars, Community to Discuss NKR

On October 9, 2011 a conference called "Artsakh in Today's World" took place at the Glendale's Public Library. Organized by the Artsakh Development Group, the conference involved scholars in history, economics and political science, and community activists.

The conference was called to increase public awareness of the wide range of issues relevant to Artsakh. Separate panels chaired by professors, specialists and community leaders described Artsakh's history, politics, economy and culture.

Armine Alexanyan, acting Head of Department on Multilateral Cooperation of the NKR Foreign Ministry was also invited to discuss the cultural aspect of Artsakh's continued struggle for independence. Mrs. Alexanyan briefed the audience about Soviet Azerbaijan's destructive policy towards Armenian religious, cultural and educational heritage. Speaker from Artsakh stressed that NKR authorities remained committed to continue restoration of Artsakh, paying special attention to the republic's cultural life.

Artsakh Representative Robert Avetisyan joined the panelists during the Q&A session sharing insight on a range of issues, and delivered closing remarks. He stressed the importance of the continued national unity around Artsakh as a precondition for the republic's steadfast and secure development. Avetisyan also described the achievements and challenges Artsakh was facing throughout the first two decades of independence.

For more information, please, contact Press Service of the Office of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic in the USA at: info@nkrusa.org

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MEDIA ALERT: FOREIGN POLICY JOURNAL PUBLISHED ARTICLE ON ARTSAKH

DATE: October 27, 2011

TO: Media Colleagues

RE: FOREIGN POLICY JOURNAL PUBLISHED ARTICLE ON ARTSAKH

On October 26, 2011, *Foreign Policy Journal* published an article by Aram Avetisyan and Hovhannes Nikoghosyan.

Named "Nagorno-Karabakh Republic: The First 20 Years of de-facto Independence", the publication covers historical, political and legal aspects of Nagorno Karabakh conflict, state building process in Artsakh Republic, as well as touches upon relations between Azerbaijan and Artsakh and regional prospects.

The full text of the article is provided below. You can also view it online at:

<http://www.foreignpolicyjournal.com/2011/10/26/nagorno-karabakh-republic-the-first-20-years-of-de-facto-independence/0/>

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Foreign Policy Journal

Nagorno-Karabakh Republic: The First 20 Years of de-facto Independence

by Aram Avetisyan and Hovhannes Nikoghosyan

Published: Wednesday October 26, 2011

The year of 2011 has been marked for the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic (NKR, or Artsakh as Armenians were calling it for centuries) with the 20th anniversary of its independence from the Soviet Union. The people of Artsakh, despite various endemic challenges, made a choice for a free and democratic development – something previously unheard throughout the oppressive Communist era. The freedom-loving people in Karabakh followed the requirements of then effective (i.e. Soviet) legislation and norms of international law, and voted for independence at a nation-wide referendum on December 10, 1991 – right two weeks before the Soviet Union legally disappeared, leaving its heritage of arbitrary decisions.

One of the toughest challenges for the NKR since restoring its sovereignty remains convincing those against Artsakh's freedom, and first of all – neighboring Azerbaijan, that the world has changed since 1991, and that decolonization processes take place much smoother with the adequate reaction by former members of a single political-administrative entity. Unfortunately, few capitals of former Soviet republics refuse to accept the new realities, and cherish a partial and selective retention of infamous Stalin's deeds.

Relations between NKR and Azerbaijan remain complicated and hostile, which impedes the whole region's comprehensive development and undermine stability and security of the South Caucasus. To promote a proper and unbiased understanding of the situation and, therefore, the search for a lasting peace and a predictable region, it is extremely important to set the facts straight.

Historically and legally, Nagorno-Karabakh or Artsakh (the word "Karabakh" has Persian roots and means "black garden"[1]) has been one of the ancient Armenian principalities. During the short period of independence of South Caucasus republics (Armenia, Georgia and Azerbaijan) in 1918-1920, the League of Nations refused to recognize newly-created Azerbaijan because of its state fragility, as well as territorial claims towards Georgia and Armenia, particularly, claims over Nagorno-Karabakh, stating that "frontier disputes with neighboring states did not permit of an exact definition of the boundaries of Azerbaijan".[2] Thus, it is extremely important to underline and keep in mind that in 1918-1920, international community, particularly the League of Nations, did not recognize Azerbaijan's authority over Nagorno-Karabakh.

After the region's Sovietization, in 1921, the Bolshevik government, under the leadership of Joseph Stalin, forcibly and illegally placed Armenian-populated Nagorno-Karabakh inside the newly drawn borders of the Soviet Azerbaijan, creating autonomy for the oblast that remained in force for the consequent decades. After Gorbachov declared liberalization of political regime by proclaiming the era of perestroika and glasnost in 1985, the people of Karabakh sought to legally rejoin Armenia, and correct the errors of the past. However, Azerbaijan responded with anti-Armenian pogroms from 1988-1991, hundreds of miles away from Artsakh proper—in Sumgayit, Baku, Kirovabad, Mingeaur, and with a total blockade of Nagorno Karabakh, which was condemned by international community. It has also escalated the peaceful process into a full-scale confrontation between the nations.[3] Confrontation, which has claimed thousands of lives, and still continues to overwhelm each and every aspect of Baku's attitude towards Stepanakert. And mass media, as always, is also a battlefield.

Going back to the historical and legal aspects of the problem, it is essential to emphasize that in 1991, Azerbaijan adopted a declaration on state independence, proclaiming itself the successor of the 1918-1920 Azerbaijani Democratic Republic, thus rejecting the Soviet Azerbaijan's legal and political heritage, including Soviet-era authority over the Nagorno Karabakh Autonomous Oblast.[4] As noted earlier, the League of Nations didn't recognize Azerbaijani authority over Nagorno Karabakh in the years of 1918-1920 Republic.

The Nagorno-Karabakh conflict has never been a territorial dispute between Azerbaijan and Armenia, as Baku often tries to portray it by abusing the text and interpretation of four relevant UN Security Council resolutions of 1993. In reality, a legal essence of the confrontation lays in the internationally recognized fundamental principle of equality of peoples and the right to freedom and self-determination. The peaceful appeal of Nagorno-Karabakh to the Soviet Government on reunification with Armenia in February 1988, and declaration of Karabakh independence that followed in 1991 set the example of a people's attempt to enjoy their right to self-determination, and to master their own destiny.[5]

Basing on the universal principles of human rights, and in compliance with the international and domestic (i.e. Soviet) legal norms, the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast and adjacent Shahumian region's national assembly declared independence, and confirmed its choice through the December 10, 1991[6] nationwide referendum. Then acting Soviet legislation, particularly "Law of the USSR of April 3, 1990 concerning the procedure of secession of a Soviet Republic from the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics"[7] envisaged the right to secession for the Union republics and autonomous regions. Thereby, in 1991, sovereign Azerbaijani Republic and sovereign Nagorno-Karabakh Republic were proclaimed on the territory of the former Soviet Azerbaijani republic.

Azerbaijan responded with a large-scale military aggression against the people of Nagorno-Karabakh. Thousands of regular Azeri troops, Afghan mujahideens and other forces linked to various international terrorist organizations, also fought against ethnic Armenians.[8] Ultimately, Baku and its certain supporters failed to conquer Artsakh, and had to ask for a cease-fire,[9] which was co-signed by Azerbaijan, Armenia and NKR in May, 1994.

The conflict was devastating indeed. Dozens of thousands casualties, territorial losses, mutual flows of refugees, and a deepening distrust – these are the direct consequences of the 1991-1994 war. In efforts to reject its

responsibility and mislead the international community, Azerbaijan has been constantly complaining about "occupation of its territories" often referring to the UN Security Council's resolutions. Nonetheless, in reality none of those resolutions has ever mentioned Armenia as aggressor,[10] since the conflict is between Azerbaijan and Nagorno-Karabakh.

The mentioned resolutions urged both the Armenian and Azerbaijani sides to "refrain from any hostile acts and from any interference, which would lead to the widening of the conflict and undermine peace and security in the region".[11] The history of those days clearly shows that this is not how Azerbaijan had been willing to behave. Aggressive stance and continued provocations by Baku were repeatedly evidenced by then co-chairs to the OSCE Minsk Group. For instance, Russia's envoy to the Group from 1992 to 1996, Ambassador Vladimir Kazimirov has many times stated that revanchist Azerbaijan had always been responsible for violating the UN resolutions and undermining international peacemaking efforts. In one of his writings, Ambassador Kazimirov reiterated that

"all four Resolutions were adopted at the peak of the military operations (April-November 1993). That's why it's natural that their most principal, key demand was to cease fire, military operations and hostile acts....During that period and later, till May 1994, i.e. more than a year Azerbaijan's leadership persistently ignored the main demands of all 4 Resolutions and continued staking on the forcible solution of the conflict, several times violated the cease-fire, deviated from agreements about it and from other peace-making initiatives. ... This has a most direct relation to the grave consequences of the war, as seizure of territories, growth of the number of displaced persons are also on the conscience of Azerbaijan's leadership, and not only on Armenia's and Nagorno Karabakh's." [12]

Another quote by a European official makes the picture far clearer. Besotted by a temporary military success the Azeri army reached with a significant help of mercenaries from Afghanistan, Pakistan and elsewhere, Baku has been decisive in "solving" the problem once and forever the only way Azeri Government imagined – killing each and every Armenian in Karabakh.[13] Mario Rafaelli, the first Chairman of the Minsk Conference (Minsk Group's antecedent), wrote in his September 23, 1992 letter to the OSCE Chairman-in-Office Jozef Moravčík: Azerbaijan's continued "actions aimed at the restoration of its control over the given territory are incompatible with the country's obligations to seek peaceful solution of the conflict through negotiations. ... How can the Minsk Group quietly continue negotiations, when the very object of the negotiations eventually vanishes? In the case that Nagorno-Karabakh returns under the control of that country in the result of the military offensive, what would then remain for negotiations?" [14]

The bottom-line is that the Nagorno Karabakh Republic's independence has nothing to do with the territorial integrity of Azerbaijan – the legal predecessor of the only independent Azerbaijani Republic of 1918-1920, which, as it was mentioned above, never included Nagorno Karabakh. For those who reject to accept the regional realities and existence of the sovereign Artsakh, the international community has repeatedly reaffirmed its vision of the Karabakh settlement, which has to be based on the three main and equal principles of the international law: right for self-determination of peoples, territorial integrity of states, and non use and non threat of use of force.

However, Artsakh survived and since declaring independence in 1991, the NKR has established itself as a free and democratic state with effective democratic governance, active civil society and developing market economy. Local reforms have created a favorable environment for business activity and attracted multi-million foreign investments. More than \$130 million have been invested in Artsakh's relatively small economy January – June 2011 alone.[15] Mining, telecommunication, construction, energy, tourism, food processing and agriculture are among the most attractive spheres for a business-activity in the republic. The number of visitors passed 20000 in 2011.[16] Karabakh economy continues to demonstrate a stable growth with the average real GDP growth around 5 percent in the aftermath of the global economic crisis.[17]

Thus, during the last decade, Artsakh, being deprived of international financial assistance except for the annual humanitarian assistance by U.S. Congress, proved to be able to restore from ruins its economy and infrastructure. Deepening of the democratic values remains the essential task for the republic's authorities, which were elected through a voting monitored and assessed by international observers as free, democratic and transparent.[18]

Artsakh and Azerbaijan are incompatibly different in their views and implementation of the sovereignty. The modern-day Azerbaijan represents a quasi-monarchic sultanate. The ruling Aliyev family suppresses any slight sign of freedom or disobedience in their country.[19] Global human rights and economy watchdogs including Transparency International, Freedom House and Forbes journal traditionally mention Azerbaijan among the world's most corrupted and non-free countries. Recently, discussions around the ruling family's properties have swept world media outlets.[20]

Baku's foreign policy is nothing better. Besotted by easy petrodollars, Azerbaijan's position on Karabakh remains far from constructive. Azeris deviate from the previous agreements, undermine international efforts to broker a peace deal. Instead of preparing its people for compromises and peace, warmongering and anti-Armenian takes the majority of the republic's official communication. Clearly, bellicose statements by Azeri top and high-level officials and increasing military spendings[21] jeopardize international efforts, including American, with regards to the Azerbaijan-Artsakh confrontation.

Unlike Azerbaijan, the NKR remains committed to the peaceful resolution of the conflict. The position of Artsakh coincides with that of the international mediators in support for NKR's resumed full-scale participation in the negotiations process. Restoring the proper format of negotiations and international recognition of the republic became an imperative need for achieving progress in the peace talks. Any positive settlement requires direct participation of the NKR.

And this is the least Azerbaijan must do for the sake of the South Caucasus' future.

Notes

[1] The late Turkic word "Karabakh" is a direct translation of Persian "Bagh-e-Siah" (meaning "Black Garden"), a geographic term used by Persians to designate this province of Eastern Armenia in the Middle Ages. The native, Armenian, name for the region is Artsakh; it most probably originated from the compound term Sartsakh, meaning "Mountains and Woods." These two words ("sar," meaning "mountain," and "tsakh," meaning "woods" or "forest," in Armenian) together best characterize Artsakh's landscape. See more: "Nagorno Karabakh: Historical Reference (in Russian)", Yerevan, 1988, page 8; Also at: <http://www.cilicia.com/History.htm>

[2] League of Nations: Journal N17 of the First Assembly, Geneva 1920, page 139

[3] See: U.S. Senate, S. RES. 128, May 17, 1991 <http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c102:S.RES.128:>

The European Parliament, Resolution: On the situation in Armenia. February 19, 1990
http://www.armenianatomission.com/picture/doc/EP_resolution_on_the_situation_in_Armenia_18.01.1990%5B1%5D.pdf

See also: http://nkrusa.org/nk_conflict/ethnic_cleansing_campaigns.shtml
130 Died, Sakharov Says, NY Times <http://www.nytimes.com/1988/11/26/world/130-died-sakharov-says.html>
Nationalism at Its Nastiest, NY Times, <http://www.nytimes.com/1990/01/19/opinion/nationalism-at-its-nastiest.html>

[4] Declaration of the Supreme Soviet of the Azerbaijan Republic on "Re-establishment of the State Independence of the Azerbaijan Republic", Bakinski Rabochi, August 31, 1991.

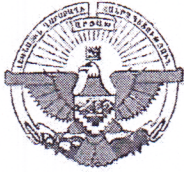
[5] U.S. Senate, S.J. Resolution 178, Passed November 19 (legislative day, November 6), 1989, See:
<http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/D?c101:3:./temp/~c101f2otwl::>

- [6] Report on the results of the referendum on the independence of the NKR, see <http://nkr.am/en/referendum/42/>
- [7] The law of the USSR of April 3, 1990, see http://nkrusa.org/nk_conflict/ussr_law.shtml
- [8] Hayk Demoyan: "Mercenaries, extremists & Islamist Fighters in the Karabakh War. How International Terrorist Network Penetrated Post-Soviet Azerbaijan", Yerevan, Armenia, 2010. See also [The Washington Post \(August 11, 1993; April 21, 1994\)](#), [The Daily Telegraph \(November 10, 1993\)](#) etc
- [9] The Bishkek protocol, See <http://nkr.am/en/the-bishkek-protocol/43/>
- [10] See UN Security resolutions [822](#), [853](#), [874](#) and [884](#)
- [11] Ibid.
- [12] "Ambassador Vladimir Kazimirov letter to Mr. David Atkinson", Moscow, December 3, 2004: <http://vn.kazimirov.ru/k101eng.htm>
- [13] Caroline Cox and John Eibner: "Ethnic Cleansing in Progress: War in Nagorno Karabakh", 1993: <http://sumgait.info/caroline-cox/ethnic-cleansing-in-progress/introduction.htm>
- [14] Article: Nagorno-Karabakh Settlement Revisited: Is Peace Achievable? Democratizatsiya Journal <http://www.demokratizatsiya.org/bin/pdf/DEM%2014-2%20Zourabian.pdf>
- [15] <http://www.arka.am/eng/economy/2011/09/13/27713.html>
- [16] <http://www.arka.am/eng/tourism/2011/09/28/28069.html>
- [17] The NKR National Statistical Service
http://www.stat-nkr.am/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=38&Itemid=22&lang=en
- [18] NKR Elections Reports, See http://nkrusa.org/hot_topic/election_monitoring.shtml
- [19] Free Expression Under Attack: Azerbaijan's Deteriorating Media Environment: Report of the International Freedom of Expression Mission to Azerbaijan, 7-9 September 2010, See <http://www.article19.org/data/files/pdfs/publications/free-expression-under-attack.pdf>
(See also "UN Experts Ask Azerbaijan To Stop Free Speech Curbs", Reuters, July 31, 2009; "Azerbaijan Continues To Eschew Genuine Democracy", RFE/RL, April 22, 2009; "Azerbaijan oil: a mixed blessing", The Christian Science Monitor / December 30, 2005)
- [20] See Washington Post, March 5, 2010 ["Pricey real estate deals in Dubai raise questions about Azerbaijan's president"](#)
- [21] See <http://www.president.az/articles/922/print?locale=en> (See also <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201012/cmselect/cmfaaff/964/964vw12.htm#note80>)

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**МИНИСТР ИНОСТРАННЫХ ДЕЛ НАГОРНО-КАРАБАХСКОЙ РЕСПУБЛИКИ
FOREIGN MINISTER OF THE NAGORNO KARABAKH REPUBLIC**

Ստեփանակերտ
Степанакерт
Stepanakert

2 July 2011 թ.
N _____

**The Honorable Hillary Rodham CLINTON
U.S. Department of State
2201 C St NW 7th Floor
Washington, DC 20520**

Dear Secretary Clinton:

On behalf of the people and authorities of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh, I am writing to congratulate you and the American people in connection with the United States' Independence Day.

Since the day of proclamation, the United States has championed the universal values of freedom and democracy, which has motivated other freedom-loving nations, including Artsakh, to struggle selflessly for achieving a long-cherished liberty.

We highly appreciate the US efforts within the OSCE Minsk Group to establishing a positive peace and stability in the South Caucasus by reaching a fair and durable solution to the Nagorno Karabakh conflict with Azerbaijan.

Also, Artsakh is grateful to the American nation for the ongoing humanitarian assistance, which has helped to rebuild our lives and restore the republic's war-devastated infrastructure.

As we continue developing as an independent democracy, Nagorno Karabakh remains determined to promote our shared vision of a safer world, a peaceful and democratic Caucasus.

Once again, I congratulate your nation with the holiday of freedom and independence, and wish the American nation peace and prosperity.

Sincerely,

Georgy PETROSSIAN



**ԼՆՌՆԱՅԻՆ ԳԱՐԱԲԱՂԻ ՀԱՆՐԱՊԵՏՈՒԹՅԱՆ
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**МИНИСТР ИНОСТРАННЫХ ДЕЛ НАГОРНО-КАРАБАХСКОЙ РЕСПУБЛИКИ
FOREIGN MINISTER OF THE NAGORNO KARABAKH REPUBLIC**

Ստեփանակերտ
Степанакерт
Stepanakert

2 July 20 11թ.
N _____

Ms. Tina S. KAIDANOW
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Ms. Kaidanow:

On behalf of the people and authorities of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh, I am writing to congratulate you and the American people in connection with the United States' Independence Day.

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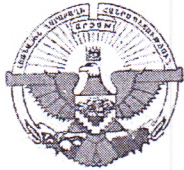
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Sincerely,

Georgy PETROSSIAN



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ԱՐՏԱԽԻՆ ԳՈՐԾԵՐԻ ՆԱԽԱՐԱՐ**

**МИНИСТР ИНОСТРАННЫХ ДЕЛ НАГОРНО-КАРАБАХСКОЙ РЕСПУБЛИКИ
FOREIGN MINISTER OF THE NAGORNO KARABAKH REPUBLIC**

Ստեփանակերտ
Степанакерт
Stepanakert

2 July 2011 թ.
N _____

Dr. Philip H. GORDON
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Dr. Gordon:

On behalf of the people and authorities of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh, I am writing to congratulate you and the American people in connection with the United States' Independence Day.

Since the day of proclamation, the United States has championed the universal values of freedom and democracy, which has motivated other freedom-loving nations, including Artsakh, to struggle selflessly for achieving a long-cherished liberty.

We highly appreciate the US efforts within the OSCE Minsk Group to establishing a positive peace and stability in the South Caucasus by reaching a fair and durable solution to the Nagorno Karabakh conflict with Azerbaijan.

Also, Artsakh is grateful to the American nation for the ongoing humanitarian assistance, which has helped to rebuild our lives and restore the republic's war-devastated infrastructure.

As we continue developing as an independent democracy, Nagorno Karabakh remains determined to promote our shared vision of a safer world, a peaceful and democratic Caucasus.

Once again, I congratulate your nation with the holiday of freedom and independence, and wish the American nation peace and prosperity.

Sincerely,

Georgy PETROSSIAN



**ԼԵՌՆԱՅԻՆ ԴԱՐԱՐԱՂԻ ՀԱՆՐԱՊԵՏՈՒԹՅԱՆ
ԱՐՏԱՔԻՆ ԳՈՐԾԵՐԻ ՆԱԽԱՐԱՐ**

**МИНИСТР ИНОСТРАННЫХ ДЕЛ НАГОРНО-КАРАБАХСКОЙ РЕСПУБЛИКИ
FOREIGN MINISTER OF THE NAGORNO KARABAKH REPUBLIC**

Ստեփանակերտ
Степанакерт
Stepanakert

2 July 2011թ.
N _____

**Ambassador Marie L. YOVANOVITCH
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
US Embassy in Armenia
1 American Avenue, Yerevan 0082**

Dear Ambassador Yovanovitch:

On behalf of the people and authorities of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh, I am writing to congratulate you and the American people in connection with the United States' Independence Day.

Since the day of proclamation, the United States has championed the universal values of freedom and democracy, which has motivated other freedom-loving nations, including Artsakh, to struggle selflessly for achieving a long-cherished liberty.

We highly appreciate the US efforts within the OSCE Minsk Group to establishing a positive peace and stability in the South Caucasus by reaching a fair and durable solution to the Nagorno Karabakh conflict with Azerbaijan.

Also, Artsakh is grateful to the American nation for the ongoing humanitarian assistance, which has helped to rebuild our lives and restore the republic's war-devastated infrastructure.

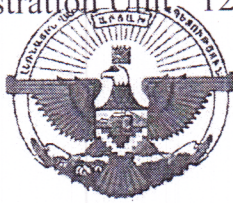
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Once again, I congratulate your nation with the holiday of freedom and independence, and wish the American nation peace and prosperity.

Sincerely,

Georgy PETROSSIAN

ПРАВИТЕЛЬСТВО
НАГОРНО-КАРАБАХСКОЙ
РЕСПУБЛИКИ



THE GOVERNMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC
OF NAGORNO-KARABAKH

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ԿԱՌԱՎԱՐՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ

ԼՂՀ, ք. Ստեփանակերտ, Փետրվարի 20/1 \ НКР, г. Степанакерт, ул. 20 Февраля, 1 \ February Street 20/1, Stepanakert, NKR
Tel: (374 47) 943507, (374 47) 943214; Fax: (374 47) 971253; E-mail: comp.staff@gov.nkr.am; URL: www.gov.nkr.am

N 9-ՆԿ-57

« 2 » July 2011 թ.

Dr. Rajiv Shah
Administrator, USAID
Ronald Reagan Building
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20523

Dear Dr. Shah:

On behalf of the people and authorities of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh, I am writing to congratulate you and the American people in connection with the United States' Independence Day.

Since the day of proclamation, the United States has championed the universal values of freedom and democracy, which has motivated other freedom-loving nations, including Artsakh, to struggle selflessly for achieving a long-cherished liberty.

We highly appreciate the US efforts within the OSCE Minsk Group to establishing a positive peace and stability in the South Caucasus by reaching a fair and durable solution to the Nagorno Karabakh conflict with Azerbaijan.

Also, Artsakh is grateful to the American nation for the ongoing humanitarian assistance, which has helped to rebuild our lives and restore the republic's war-devastated infrastructure.

As we continue developing as an independent democracy, Nagorno Karabakh remains determined to promote our shared vision of a safer world, a peaceful and democratic Caucasus. Once again, I congratulate your nation with the holiday of freedom and independence, and wish the American nation peace and prosperity.

Sincerely,

Araik Harutyunyan



**ԼՂՌՆԱՅԻՆ ՂԱՐԱԲԱԳԻ ՀԱՆՐԱՊԵՏՈՒԹՅԱՆ
ԱՐՏԱՔԻՆ ԳՈՐԾԵՐԻ ՆԱԽԱՐԱՐ**

**МИНИСТР ИНОСТРАННЫХ ДЕЛ НАГОРНО-КАРАБАХСКОЙ РЕСПУБЛИКИ
FOREIGN MINISTER OF THE NAGORNO KARABAKH REPUBLIC**

Ստեփանակերտ
Степанакерт
Stepanakert

2 July 20 թթ.
N _____

Ambassador Robert BRADTKE
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Ambassador Bradtke:

On behalf of the people and authorities of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh, I am writing to congratulate you and the American people in connection with the United States' Independence Day.

Since the day of proclamation, the United States has championed the universal values of freedom and democracy, which has motivated other freedom-loving nations, including Artsakh, to struggle selflessly for achieving a long-cherished liberty.

We highly appreciate the US efforts within the OSCE Minsk Group to establishing a positive peace and stability in the South Caucasus by reaching a fair and durable solution to the Nagorno Karabakh conflict with Azerbaijan.

Also, Artsakh is grateful to the American nation for the ongoing humanitarian assistance, which has helped to rebuild our lives and restore the republic's war-devastated infrastructure.

As we continue developing as an independent democracy, Nagorno Karabakh remains determined to promote our shared vision of a safer world, a peaceful and democratic Caucasus.

Once again, I congratulate your nation with the holiday of freedom and independence, and wish the American nation peace and prosperity.

Sincerely,

Georgy PETROSSIAN

ԼԵՈՆԱՅԻՆ ՂԱՐԱԲԱԿԻ ՀԱՆՐԱՊԵՏՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ
ՊԱՇՏՊԱՆՈՒԹՅԱՆ ՆԱԽԱՐԱՐՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ

REPUBLIC OF NAGORNO-
KARABAKH
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE



НАГОРНО-КАРАБАХСКАЯ
РЕСПУБЛИКА
МИНИСТЕРСТВО ОБОРОНЫ

✉ ք. Ստեփանակերտ, փող. Տիգրան Մեծի 13ա ☎ (+37447) 94-46-48 ✉ Գ.Տեփանակերտ, ул. Тиграна Меца 13а
(+37410) 28-65-45

N _____

« 2 » July 2011թ.

Leon PANETTA
Secretary of Defense
U.S. Department of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301

Dear Mr. Panetta:

On behalf of the people and authorities of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh, I am writing to congratulate you and the American people in connection with the United States' Independence Day.

Since the day of proclamation, the United States has championed the universal values of freedom and democracy, which has motivated other freedom-loving nations, including Artsakh, to struggle selflessly for achieving a long-cherished liberty.

We highly appreciate the US efforts within the OSCE Minsk Group to establishing a positive peace and stability in the South Caucasus by reaching a fair and durable solution to the Nagorno Karabakh conflict with Azerbaijan.

Also, Artsakh is grateful to the American nation for the ongoing humanitarian assistance, which has helped to rebuild our lives and restore the republic's war-devastated infrastructure.

As we continue developing as an independent democracy, Nagorno Karabakh remains determined to promote our shared vision of a safer world, a peaceful and democratic Caucasus.

Once again, I congratulate your nation with the holiday of freedom and independence, and wish the American nation peace and prosperity.

Sincerely,

Minister of defence

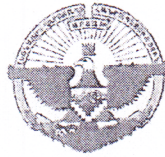
Movses Hakobyan

List of members of the US Congress

who received July 4 congratulatory letters from the NKR Parliament Speaker A.Ghoulian

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
The Honorable Harry Reid
The Honorable Jack Reed
The Honorable Barbara Boxer
The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
The Honorable Richard J Durbin
The Honorable John Ensign
The Honorable John F. Kerry
The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
The Honorable Carl Levin
The Honorable Robert Menendez
The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
The Honorable Richard G. Lugar
The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
The Honorable David Dreier
The Honorable Steny Hoyer
The Honorable Frank Pallone
The Honorable Lloyd Doggett
The Honorable Devin Nunes
The Honorable Barney Frank
The Honorable Maurice Hinchey
The Honorable Adam Schiff
The Honorable John Boehner
The Honorable James Clyburn
The Honorable Joseph Crowley
The Honorable Mark Kirk
The Honorable Thaddeus McCotter
The Honorable Brad Sherman
The Honorable Gary Ackerman
The Honorable Joe Baca
The Honorable Shelley Berkley
The Honorable Howard Berman
The Honorable Bruce Braley
The Honorable David Cicilline
The Honorable Jim Costa
The Honorable Eliot Engel
The Honorable Anna Eshoo

The Honorable Chaka Fattah
The Honorable Elton Gallegly
The Honorable Rush Holt
The Honorable Jim Langevin
The Honorable Daniel Lipinski
The Honorable Stephen Lynch
The Honorable Edward Markey
The Honorable James McGovern
The Honorable Grace Napolitano
The Honorable Gary Peters
The Honorable Charles Rangel
The Honorable Steven Rothman
The Honorable Loretta Sanchez
The Honorable John Sarbanes
The Honorable Jackie Speier
The Honorable Henry Waxman
The Honorable Ed Royce



CHAIRMAN OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAGORNO - KARABAKH

2, February 20 st., Stepanakert, NKR

Tel. / Fax: (+374) 943221

« 4 » Feby 2011

The Honorable Howard Berman
United States House of Representatives
2221 RHOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Berman

On behalf of the people and authorities of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh, I am writing to congratulate you and the American people in connection with the United States' Independence Day.

Since the day of proclamation, the United States has championed the universal values of freedom and democracy, which has motivated other freedom-loving nations, including Artsakh, to struggle selflessly for achieving a long-cherished liberty.

We defended our right to live free, and today we continue developing as an independent democracy. Our nation appreciates the tireless efforts of the United States within the OSCE Minsk Group to promote our shared vision of regional peace and stability by bringing about a fair and positive solution to the Nagorno Karabakh conflict with Azerbaijan.

Also, the people of Artsakh are grateful to the American nation, our steadfast friends and supporters in the U.S. Congress for the ongoing humanitarian assistance, which helps us to rebuild our lives and restore Artsakh's war-devastated infrastructure.

Once again, I congratulate your nation with the holiday of freedom and independence, and wish the American nation peace and prosperity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'A. Ghulian'.

Ashot Ghulian



President of the Republic of Nagorno-Karabakh

August 4, 2011

№ 1-06/275

To H.E. Robert Bradtke
Ambassador, U.S. Co-Chair of the OSCE Minsk Group

Your Excellency,

On behalf of the authorities of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic and myself I have an honor to invite You to partake in solemn events dedicated to the 20th anniversary of the NKR's proclamation.

I would be glad to see You in Stepanakert during the celebrations on 1 and 2 of September.

Please, accept my assurances of highest consideration.

Respectfully yours,

Bako Sahakyan

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Bako Sahakyan', is written over a large, faint circular watermark of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic's coat of arms.



**STATE COMMISSION ON CELEBRATION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF
PROCLAMATION OF THE NAGORNO-KARABAKH REPUBLIC**

« _____ » AUGUST 4 2011

Mr. Paul Krekorian
Councilmember
Los Angeles City Council

Dear Councilmember Krekorian,

On behalf of the people and authorities of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh, I have the honor to invite you to Stepanakert to attend the festivities dedicated to the 20th anniversary of proclaiming our Republic.

We value your contribution in the development of our statehood, and will be happy to see you in Artsakh on September 1 and 2, 2011 to witness the achievements since signing the historic decision of September 2, 1991 on proclaiming the independent Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh.

The schedule of the festive events is attached for your information.

As a Co-Chair of the State Commission for Celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh, I ask you kindly to confirm your participation until August 20, 2011 by sending replying to protocol@mfa.nk.am or calling (+37497) 24 24 71 and (+37497) 20 73 07 (Department of State Protocol Service of the NKR MFA).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'A. Ghouljian', is written over a light blue circular stamp. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Ashot GHOULIAN

Co-Chair of the State Commission for Celebration
of the 20th Anniversary of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic



**STATE COMMISSION ON CELEBRATION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF
PROCLAMATION OF THE NAGORNO-KARABAKH REPUBLIC**

« _____ » AUGUST 4 2011

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
The United States House of Representatives

Dear Representative Pelosi,

On behalf of the people and authorities of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh, I have the honor to invite you to Stepanakert to attend the festivities dedicated to the 20th anniversary of proclaiming our Republic.

We will be happy to see you in Artsakh on September 1 and 2, 2011 to witness the achievements since signing the historic decision of September 2, 1991 on proclaiming the independent Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh.

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Co-Chair of the State Commission for Celebration
of the 20th Anniversary of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic



STATE COMMISSION ON CELEBRATION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF
PROCLAMATION OF THE NAGORNO-KARABAKH REPUBLIC

« _____ » AUGUST 4 2011

The Honorable Steven Rothman
The United States House of Representatives

Dear Representative Rothman,

On behalf of the people and authorities of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh, I have the honor to invite you to Stepanakert to attend the festivities dedicated to the 20th anniversary of proclaiming our Republic.

We will be happy to see you in Artsakh on September 1 and 2, 2011 to witness the achievements since signing the historic decision of September 2, 1991 on proclaiming the independent Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh.

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Yours sincerely,

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Ashot GHOULIAN

Co-Chair of the State Commission for Celebration
of the 20th Anniversary of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic



**STATE COMMISSION ON CELEBRATION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF
PROCLAMATION OF THE NAGORNO-KARABAKH REPUBLIC**

« _____ » AUGUST 4 2011

The Honorable Adam Schiff
The United States House of Representatives

Dear Representative Schiff,

On behalf of the people and authorities of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh, I have the honor to invite you to Stepanakert to attend the festivities dedicated to the 20th anniversary of proclaiming our Republic.

We will be happy to see you in Artsakh on September 1 and 2, 2011 to witness the achievements since singing the historic decision of September 2, 1991 on proclaiming the independent Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh.

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Co-Chair of the State Commission for Celebration
of the 20th Anniversary of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic



**STATE COMMISSION ON CELEBRATION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF
PROCLAMATION OF THE NAGORNO-KARABAKH REPUBLIC**

« _____ » AUGUST 4 2011

The Honorable Anna Eshoo
The United States House of Representatives

Dear Representative Eshoo,

On behalf of the people and authorities of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh, I have the honor to invite you to Stepanakert to attend the festivities dedicated to the 20th anniversary of proclaiming our Republic.

We will be happy to see you in Artsakh on September 1 and 2, 2011 to witness the achievements since signing the historic decision of September 2, 1991 on proclaiming the independent Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh.

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Co-Chair of the State Commission for Celebration
of the 20th Anniversary of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic



STATE COMMISSION ON CELEBRATION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF
PROCLAMATION OF THE NAGORNO-KARABAKH REPUBLIC

« _____ » AUGUST 4 2011

The Honorable Mark Kirk
The United States Senate

Dear Senator Kirk,

On behalf of the people and authorities of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh, I have the honor to invite you to Stepanakert to attend the festivities dedicated to the 20th anniversary of proclaiming our Republic.

We will be happy to see you in Artsakh on September 1 and 2, 2011 to witness the achievements since signing the historic decision of September 2, 1991 on proclaiming the independent Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh.

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Yours sincerely,

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Ashot GHOULIAN

Co-Chair of the State Commission for Celebration
of the 20th Anniversary of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic



STATE COMMISSION ON CELEBRATION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF
PROCLAMATION OF THE NAGORNO-KARABAKH REPUBLIC

« _____ » AUGUST 4 2011

The Honorable Brad Sherman
The United States House of Representatives

Dear Representative Sherman,

On behalf of the people and authorities of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh, I have the honor to invite you to Stepanakert to attend the festivities dedicated to the 20th anniversary of proclaiming our Republic.

We will be happy to see you in Artsakh on September 1 and 2, 2011 to witness the achievements since singing the historic decision of September 2, 1991 on proclaiming the independent Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh.

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Co-Chair of the State Commission for Celebration
of the 20th Anniversary of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic



**STATE COMMISSION ON CELEBRATION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF
PROCLAMATION OF THE NAGORNO-KARABAKH REPUBLIC**

« _____ » AUGUST 4 2011

The Honorable Ed Royce
The United States House of Representatives

Dear Representative Ed Royce,

On behalf of the people and authorities of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh, I have the honor to invite you to Stepanakert to attend the festivities dedicated to the 20th anniversary of proclaiming our Republic.

We will be happy to see you in Artsakh on September 1 and 2, 2011 to witness the achievements since signing the historic decision of September 2, 1991 on proclaiming the independent Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh.

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Co-Chair of the State Commission for Celebration
of the 20th Anniversary of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic



**STATE COMMISSION ON CELEBRATION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF
PROCLAMATION OF THE NAGORNO-KARABAKH REPUBLIC**

« _____ » AUGUST 4 2011

The Honorable Frank Pallone
The United States House of Representatives

Dear Representative Pallone,

On behalf of the people and authorities of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh, I have the honor to invite you to Stepanakert to attend the festivities dedicated to the 20th anniversary of proclaiming our Republic.

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Co-Chair of the State Commission for Celebration
of the 20th Anniversary of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic



**STATE COMMISSION ON CELEBRATION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF
PROCLAMATION OF THE NAGORNO-KARABAKH REPUBLIC**

« _____ » AUGUST 4 2011

The Honorable Howard Berman
The United States House of Representatives

Dear Representative Berman,

On behalf of the people and authorities of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh, I have the honor to invite you to Stepanakert to attend the festivities dedicated to the 20th anniversary of proclaiming our Republic.

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Yours sincerely,

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Co-Chair of the State Commission for Celebration
of the 20th Anniversary of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic



**STATE COMMISSION ON CELEBRATION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF
PROCLAMATION OF THE NAGORNO-KARABAKH REPUBLIC**

« _____ » AUGUST 4 2011

The Honorable Jackie Speier
The United States House of Representatives

Dear Representative Speier,

On behalf of the people and authorities of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh, I have the honor to invite you to Stepanakert to attend the festivities dedicated to the 20th anniversary of proclaiming our Republic.

We will be happy to see you in Artsakh on September 1 and 2, 2011 to witness the achievements since singing the historic decision of September 2, 1991 on proclaiming the independent Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh.

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Yours sincerely,

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Ashot GHOULIAN

Co-Chair of the State Commission for Celebration
of the 20th Anniversary of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic



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**МИНИСТР ИНОСТРАННЫХ ДЕЛ НАГОРНО-КАРАБАХСКОЙ РЕСПУБЛИКИ
FOREIGN MINISTER OF THE NAGORNO KARABAKH REPUBLIC**

Ստեփանակերտ
Степанакерт
Stepanakert

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November 1, 2011

The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Madam Secretary,

It is with great regret that we learnt of the passing of Mrs. Dorothy Rodham, your beloved mother.

I am writing to extend my deepest condolences to you and your family, as you struggle through this difficult period of sorrow and pain.

It is an irreplaceable loss for you and everyone who knew Mrs. Rodham. I wish you all the strength to go through this hard time of grief.

Once again, please accept my deepest condolences and most sincere sympathy to you and all members of your family.

Sincerely,

Vasiliy Atajanyan

Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs
Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh

ENERGY AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE:

HEALTH SUBCOMMITTEE
RANKING MEMBER

ENVIRONMENT AND THE ECONOMY
SUBCOMMITTEE

COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY
SUBCOMMITTEE

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE:

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FRANK PALLONE, JR.

6TH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-3006

September 8, 2011

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H.E. Bako Sahakyan
President of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic
20th February Street, 3
Stepanakert, NKR

Dear President Sahakyan:

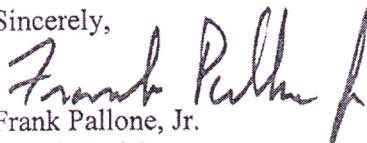
I am writing to congratulate the people of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh and you on the Anniversary of Independence. This 20th anniversary symbolizes yet another important milestone in your struggle for freedom. On September 2, 1991 the people of Artsakh declared their intention to build a free and democratic state, and they have been steadfast in this mission.

You have successfully defended your country against military aggression. Many of Artsakh's brave sons and daughters sacrificed their lives to ensure the triumph of liberty in your Homeland. The unwavering faith in your righteous cause and your commendable perseverance led you to many more victories in restoring your war-torn economy, strengthening your democracy and creating a firm basis for a continued development and prosperity.

For the past 20 years, the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, Artsakh has proven its vitality, its strong commitment to the universal values of freedom, peace and democracy. I deeply appreciate your constructive approach and ongoing contribution to peace and stability in the region and assure you of our steadfast commitment to Artsakh's security and development.

I have been proud to stand with you along your heroic path to liberty and to aid you in your efforts to achieve formal, international recognition of your independence. I look forward to the day when the flag of an independent Artsakh would proudly fly all over the world as a testament to the realization of your democratic dream.

Sincerely,



Frank Pallone, Jr.
Member of Congress

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